Finding aid of the Crittenden Van Wyck Diary (Vol.1) C058788

Finding aid prepared by Catherine Coffman
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05/30/2007
Title: Van Wyck, Crittenden Diary (Vol.1)
Identifier/Call Number: C058788
Contributing Institution: Society of California Pioneers
Language of Material: English
Storage Unit: B001651
Storage Unit: C058788
Physical Description: 1.0 folder(1 leatherbound diary, 289 pages)
Date: 1890
Abstract: This diary was written in 1890 when the author was twenty and focuses on Crittenden’s daily life, in particular his social outings, relationships and friendships, and his position at the Pacific Insurance Union. Photographs, drawings, sketches are included as are signatures collected by former classmates, calling cards, and awards from school. He also copies several of his late father’s diary entries. Within the diary are also entries by his friend L. Edwin Clenecy and sister Laura Van Wyck. Various notes and letters from friends and families are also included. The journal focuses particularly on his “first love” Alice Bradford Ames, whom he met at age fifteen and his more recent relationship with Harriet Pierce Graham (nicknamed “Tat” in his diary). Crittenden’s mother was also ill during this period.
creator: Van Wyck, Crittenden, 1870-1942
Conditions Governing Access note
Collection open for research.
Conditions Governing Use note
There are no restrictions on access.
Preferred Citation note
Donor
Crittenden Van Wyck, 02/19/1941.
Biographical/Historical note
In June of 1942, he shot and killed his ex-wife at her home in Carmichael, California. He lit her home on fire, and was seriously injured by the blaze. He committed suicide while being treated for his burns on 06/17/1942. He is quoted as saying that he wanted her to “suffer as I've suffered these many years.” (San Bernadino County Sun, 06/18/1942)
Scope and Contents note
This diary was written in 1890 when the author was twenty and focuses on Crittenden’s daily life, in particular his social outings, relationships and friendships, and his position at the Pacific Insurance Union. Photographs, drawings, sketches are included as are signatures collected by former classmates, calling cards, and awards from school. He also copies several of his late father’s diary entries. Within the diary are also entries by his friend L. Edwin Clenecy and sister Laura Van Wyck. Various notes and letters from friends and families are also included. The journal focuses particularly on his “first love” Alice Bradford Ames, whom he met at age fifteen and his more recent relationship with Harriet Pierce Graham (nicknamed “Tat” in his diary). Crittenden’s mother was also ill during this period.
Related Archival Materials note
C058570 - Crittenden Van Wyck Diary (Vol. 2)
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Ames, Alice Bradford, b. 1873
Graham, Harriet Pierce, fl. 1890
Van Wyck, Ann Churchill Crittenden , 1843-1916
Van Wyck, Sidney McMechen, 1832-1887
Diaries
Pacific Insurance Union
Photograph collections.
San Francisco (Calif.)
San Francisco (Calif.)--Social life and customs
San Francisco Boys' High School